

Collier (J Payne)
Shakesperian Critic 1789-1883

SK
1789
1789
Private

Riverside
Maidenhead
15 Dec. 1858

My dear Sir

I literally write from
my bed, to which I have been
confined for some days with
severe rheumatism. When I
may get up again is uncertain.

Your kindly intended
packet reached me yesterday.
I never, till then, had heard a
single number of W Sturton's
Shakespeare (or rather W John
Gilbert's Shakespeare) in my
hands. It seems a well illus-
trated,

but you should rather have
sent it to your critic on art,
than to your critic on Shakspeare.
I dare say that W. Staunton's
part of the work is done cleverly,
but until he took this task
in hand, I never heard of him
but as an able Chess-player, and
the Chess-editor of the "Ill. L. News".
His familiarity there with Kings,
Queens, Bishops, Knights &c may
have led Mr Routledge to fancy
that he would be a good person
to be employed upon Mr Gilbert's
very original sketches.

It was nearly the
same, I believe, with Mr Knight
who, seeing ~~Harvey's~~ Harvey's designs,
thought he might edit a Shake-
speare to them.

I do not see how I can
treat the Vols you have forwarded
to me, excepting the German one,

which I will keep, and in due
time ~~for~~ furnish you with
a brief notice of it. That seems
to have claims of German scho-
larship to recommend it.

were I to take W. Staun-
ton in hand, I might unavoid-
ably ~~be~~ use him more roughly
than his meritorious purpose
claims, & you would like.

Yours very sincerely
J. Paine Collier

Hepworth Dixon Esq.

[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is mirrored and difficult to decipher.]